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MONTHLY REPORT FROM ANG VI A

MAR. - JULY 1945

MONTHLY REPORT FROM ANG VI ARMY
MAR. - JULY 1945

CA. Sect 10 July
PATS - 11 July

FILE

12/16/87

DATE

ALPHABETICALLY

NAME

10 JUL 88

CAS

I

This 2076 parcel to you for information.
Will regard to page 4 from marked in red.
This is contrary to policy, and is further more
a present under discussion with St. Louis.
I propose to await the return of 2/28.
While from 20760000 before taking action,
believing that it is now too late to
stop this payment.

Re. 2c. last sentence on page 2.

The Gnept visited this office on the
5. Tue & explained his difficulties
with regard to Question. 2/28. S.S.
was present & I understood his
the matter in hand.

L.G.S.C.

R. R. Phillips

W. D. - Good reports.

W. D. -

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Edgmon
File
12/6/1/87

Edgson
File

106/11/PAT

to be working of policy, and is further more
 a present under discussion with St. Louis.
 I propose to await the return of L. J. P.
 White from Department before taking action,
 believing that it is now too late to
 stop this payment.

Re. 2c. last sentence on page 2.

The Report visited the office of the
 State & explained in detail
 with regard to Question. I/12/5, 8
 was present & I understood how
 the matter is handled.

L.G.S.C.

R. R. Phillips
 SA

W. J. D. - Good reports.

W. J. D.

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2 JUL 1945 12/11

PATRIOTS BR

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HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
G-5 SECTION
APO 464 US ARMY

TJM/hdp

14 JUL 1945

223/5

MIP

6 July 1945

SUBJECT: Monthly Report

TO : H.Q. Allied Commission

1. Herewith, in duplicate, monthly report for June 1945 of the Patriot Division.

For the Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5:

THOMAS J. MICHIE,
Lt. Colonel, A.C.
Executive

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HEADQUARTERS
 AMG FIFTH ARMY
 A.P.O. 454 U.S. ARMY

RCL/jlc

6 July 1945.

SUBJECT: Monthly Partisan Report - 1st - 30th June.

TO : S.C.A.C. HQ AMG Fifth Army.

1. I have to submit a report on activities of the above named section between the 1st - 30th June 1945.

General

An analysis of arms handed in by the Partisans in the Fifth Army Area has been taken and it has been found that 138,956 arms have been handed in composed as hereunder:

Rifles	126,383	<u>Ammunition</u>	
Auto-Rifles	4,754	Small Arms Rounds	826,350
Sten Guns	732	Box & Cases - Small	
Sub. Machine Guns	964	arms ammunition	923
Machine Guns	5,471	Mortar Shells	17
Mortars & Cannons	729	Artillery Shells	106
Pistols	2,218	Mines	121
Hand Grenades	46,748	Bayonets	72
Armoured Cars	5	General Ammunition	33 tons
Field Pieces	13		
Ack Ack Guns	318		

Whilst it is fully realised that this in no way represents the full amount of arms in possession of the partisans I think it would be fair to say in view of the political unrest it has been a fair achievement to have obtained so many.

2. In regard to the clothing situation a warehouse has been opened in Milan under the direction of Sgt Major Davies which is being supervised by Lt. Colonel D.E. Garston, Lombardia Region Patriot Officer. Approximately 33 tons of clothing have been obtained from Allied Commission composing of jackets, trousers, boots and blankets and this together with the partisan uniforms approximately 9,000 which were made under contract in Florence

together with approximately 3,000 new pair of boots and shoes should place us in a position to satisfy the clothing needs of the Fifth Army Area. At present there is some delay in the issuing of this clothing due to the fact the bulk of the clothing was found to be lousy with the result it has to be disinfected. Regional Patriot officers have been advised to make their indent for clothing direct to the Milan warehouse. As a result of obtaining the clothing from Allied Commission the Patriot Officer from Fifth Army visited Florence and cancelled all existing contracts on the 14th June.

Rationing

Since June 10th the issuing of Italian Military Rations to Partisans has ceased and civilian rations have replaced them. The civilian rations have been the same quantity and quality issued to Public Safety personnel. Extras in the way of vegetables have been purchased from funds issued by the prefects to the I.M.P.R.S. and up to the present no complaints have been received.

Political

In regard to the political situation as affecting Partisans in the Fifth Army Area it has been found that the predominant of unfavorable actions done by the Partisans have been largely influenced by the communist section. Most of the Garibaldi Brigades within the area have been largely responsible for the so called political crimes which are at present receiving the attention of the Public Safety Division. The political situation in the Bolzano district has not been helped at all by the strategical situation as between the people of Austrian and Italian blood and whilst things are quiet and calm outwardly there is no doubt that underneath it there is a certain amount of political unrest. In my view the presence of the San Marco divisions in the district has not helped matters in regard to the Italians of Austrian descent. In Liguria notably in the districts of La Spezia and Genoa owing to the bad economic situation and increasing unemployment communism has to some degree become fairly active. Whilst some of the key men are associated with the Partisans I am of the opinion that their activities are not so much militant as attempting to organise the general unemployed mob.

Crime

The spate of so called political murders which have recently occurred in the Fifth Army Area is rapidly abating owing to the firm action which has been taken by the Chief of the Public Safety Division, Lt. Colonel Eze and his officers. Whilst fully realising that the murders are without question the responsibility of the Patriots, from enquiries which I have made, I have no doubt that

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the more responsible partisans regard these murders and crimes with disgust, and would I am sure be quite prepared to cooperate with the Allied authorities in affecting the arrest of the perpetrators.

Regions:

Lombardia

In regard to the Region of Lombardia the following centres have been visited - Bergamo, Como, Varese, Pavia and Cremona.

Bergamo - The centre is commanded by an I.M.P.R. Lt. Col. Robiglio who appeared to be very keen in regard to his work. The centre is immediately outside the town and has accommodations for 500 persons.

Como - The centre is under command of Major Orlando and has accommodations for 500 person. The number at present vary from 100 to 250 men. A second centre exists at Lecco, and it is estimated that these centres will be closing about the middle of July.

Varese - The centre is under command of I.M.P.R. Lt. Col. Della Pura and is capable of housing up to 500 men. Number of Partisans in this camp vary from 300 to 500. The actual discipline of the camp is under Captain Perigo.

Pavia - Major Vivanti is the Provincial Partisan Officer but the camp is actually under command of Camp Commandant Dati. The camp is capable of holding 1,000 men but at present there is only 300 men.

Cremona - Under the command of Captain Lentini. At present holding 83 Partisans could take up to 500 men. Within the province itself their appear to be slight political activities due to an age old feud between Crema and Cremona supported by political differences. The Crema Partisan leader Sandro (Communist) is without doubt using the situation for personal aggrandisement but there is no doubt that this will be smoothed over.

General - The handing out of the new scale money and certificates continues and it is hoped by the end of the month it will be completed.

Piemonte

Centres have been established at Turin, Alessandria, Novaro, Aosta, Asti, Vercelli, and Cuneo.

I am informed that all these centres will be closed with a fortnight.

At present the centres contain the following Partisans:

Turin 30, Alessandria 536, Novara 150, Aosta 128, Vercelli 200, and Cuneo 434.

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In the entire region approximately between 25,000 and 35,000 Partisans have been disarmed and 1,200 Partisans have been enrolled in an auxilliary police force which I am given to understand is working with a fair degree of success. Political crimes is very small and I am informed by Lt. Col. Vining, Patriot Officer that the situation is well in hand in regard to payment of money and issuing of certificates. A special camp has been set up at De-Medosa for a thousand Partisans who have come in from Switzerland. These men have been fighting in the mountains with the French Maqui. They will be paid and issued with certificates and gradually dispersed to their homes. It is of interest to note that in this Region the Italian military authorities informed the Regional Patriot Officer that they were prepared to take up to 1500 Patriots into the Italian Army as volunteers. Out of all the masses of Patriots in the Piemonte Region only 126 volunteered. I understand that the objection was that they were not prepared to go south as they were men of the Alpini and they wished to serve as frontier guards.

Liguria

Partisan centres have been established at La Spezia, Savona, and Chiavari. Approximate numbers are: La Spezia 250, Savona 180, and Chiavari 260. Centres appear to be in excellent condition and in one case a first class modern hotel was taken over with beds, crockery, and other facilities. Paying of new rates of money is progressing well as issuing of certificates but due to the economic and unemployment condition the political situation is not very good. A separate report regarding this matter is herewith attached to this report. Major Marshall, Regional Patriot Officer may possibly be returned to England on compassionate leave grounds, but he and I feel owing to the unsettled state of the region in the event of his obtaining this leave an experienced Patriot Officer should be posted to the region.

Venezia

Only a very short visit has been paid this region and figures are not available at this moment and are being awaited. On the 22nd June a stand down parade was held in Bolzano the salute being taken by the SCAO 5th Army, Brigadier General Edgar Erskine Hume. About 500 men were on parade. These men were the last to be officially disarmed as they have been used for the purpose of local policing. It is understood that a hundred of these men have joined the San Marco division of the Italian Army for duty in the mountains. Apart from police actions of the Partisans I think that the welfare of the Partisans within the Fifth Army Area will be completed by the end of July.

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Emilia

Apart from the unsatisfactory state of the political crimes the general welfare of the Partisans is progressing well. Practically all the certificates have been issued and the new rates of money paid out. Owing to the fact that the Partisans have been generally dispersed Major Gilletti, Regional Patriot Officer, has closed both centres at Modena and Bologna.

3. I should like to draw your attention to the excellent work achieved by Captain Robert G. Hammond, 24843, R.A. (B) and 1st Lieut. Norman F. Mc Laughlin, O-1296235, Infantry (A), during the recent advance, and difficulties which occurred after the capitulation of the enemy. Both these officers together with their Italian staff have worked unstintingly under difficult and often hazardous conditions and owing to the scarcity of Patriot officers in the Fifth Army Area have had to take on their shoulders responsibility which were not compatible with the ranks they at present hold. This applies particularly in the case of Lt. Mc Laughlin who I feel is worthy of promotion to Captain.


R.C. LINGERT,
Capt., Gen. List,
Senior Patriot Officer.

HEADQUARTERS
AMG FIFTH ARMY
A.P.O. 464 U.S. ARMY

SECRET

RCL/jlc

5 July 1945.

SUBJECT: Lawlessness in La Spezia.

TO : S.C.A.O. HQ AMG Fifth Army.

1. With reference to the communication dated 29 June 1945 file No. LIG/HQ/17 from Colonel William R. Jordan, Deputy Regional Commissioner, Liguria Region and the attached report dated 27 June 1945 reference No. LIG/SPZ/PC/282 from Lt. Colonel H.G. Nichols, Provincial Commissioner, La Spezia Province relative to the above subject.

I have to report acting on the instructions of Lt. Colonel Michie, Executive Officer, HQ AMG Fifth Army. On 3 July I proceeded to Liguria Region, HQ Genoa. On my arrival I interviewed Major Marshall, Regional Patriot Officer and Major Heford, Regional Public Safety Officer. I informed both these officers of the nature of my inquiries and both appeared perplexed as they had no information regarding the nature of the allegations set out in Colonel Nichols report nor in fact seen the report. Whilst they were fully conversant with the position in La Spezia they both felt that there was no need for any undue alarm taking into consideration the economic situation as it stood in that province. I later interviewed Colonel Jordan in the presence of the above mentioned officers and pointed out to him that unless the situation was really critical I did not think that General Hume would be prepared to advise General Truscott, Commanding General Fifth Army to place any troops in the La Spezia district, particularly as AMG Fifth Army had never called on the Army to produce troops for policing purposes and that in any event at the present moment it would be exceedingly difficult to obtain any troops owing to the redeployment policy being adopted by Fifth Army. Colonel Jordan was not prepared to state definitely that the situation was critical but he thought that if a small detachment of Military Police were sent to La Spezia in order to bolster up the somewhat flagging morale of the Carabinieri, it would be somewhat helpful. I then asked the Colonel's permission to go to La Spezia together with Major Marshall and Major Heford

to form my own impressions. Prior to going to La Spezia I interviewed Colonel Fontana, Regional Partisan leader, who is a regular Italian Army Officer and whilst having slight leanings towards socialism is in my opinion loyal to the Italian government and will be quite prepared to cooperate with the allies for the enforcement of law and order. I understand that Colonel Fontana has been to Rome shortly previous and had received from the Italian government an official appointment as liaison officer between the Partisans of Liguria Region and the Allies. A man named Bertenelli another Partisan leader was present at the interview. From inquiries which I made I understand that this man at the commencement of the fascist regime had been a great friend of Mussolini and owing to the fact that he disagreed with fascism on principle had been running for his life ever since. He had been in England a number of years as a timber merchant and appeared to be very well educated speaking English very well. As a result of this interview I gleaned the fact that the main troubles appeared to be: (1) The economic and unemployment situation in La Spezia. It seems that food is scarce and owing to the fact that La Spezia at one time was a busy naval port and is at present not working as such. Unemployment has reached a figure of 20,000 and is increasing. In any event, even in normal times, La Spezia is, I understand, a centre of communist unrest. Naturally the above mentioned conditions make a very good breeding ground for any type of mob and subversive activities. (2) It appeared that there were two Questura in La Spezia. One being a Professional Questura sent from Rome and the other a political Questura who had been appointed prior to the entry of the allies by the local C.L.N. The political Questura was supported by 50 Questura agents drawn from the ranks of the communist section of the local Partisan groups. With the result that the Professional Questura was going in fear of his life which had in fact been threatened and law and order had not been established on a firm basis. There seems to be no doubt that this would confirm the paragraph in Colonel's Nichols report which states that the Questura's life is being threatened and that the lead came from his own office.

2. At this particular juncture I did not make any official comments on the subject. I inquired from Major Heford what his spare strength for the Carabinieri from his region was and ascertained that he had a mobile group of 350 who were at present inactive due to lack of transport and stationed at Genoa. He was also in possession of ten armoured cars but had no ammunition for them.

Later in company of Major Heford and Major Marshall I visited La Spezia. The town appeared to be quiet and calm. The Provincial Commissioner, Colonel Nichols, was away at Siena. I interviewed in the presence of Major Heford and Major Marshall Captain Zittel, the Public Safety Police Officer who substantially verified the information which I had obtained from Colonel Fontaina regarding the two Questuras. I suggested that in my opinion the political Questura should immediately be dismissed together with his 50 agents. Major Heford supported me in this. Captain Zittel felt he was in no position to enforce this unless he had military aid but after some discussion during which it was pointed out that this was a civilian matter and not a military matter. It was agreed that Major Heford would transfer 50 of his carabinieri from Genoa to La Spezia together with two of his armoured cars. Captain Zittel informed us that he was in no way apprehensive of the Partisans in the district as the bulk of them came under Colonel Fontaina's orders and he felt that he could rely on them but was afraid of the unemployed mob aggravated by communist agitators getting out of hand. He felt however that if he had further carabinieri reinforcements as arranged he could cope with the situation. It would seem that the situation in La Spezia is in no way comparable with the situation in the north. I understand that there had been very few political murders. Fifty in all. During the last week five took place, two of which were political and in agreement with all the officers present I feel that the entire problem is not one for undue alarm and is chiefly a public safety problem and not a military one. I understand that the last demonstration held in this town was over a month ago in which 1,000 persons demonstrated and attempted to disarm the carabinieri. Since then tranquility has prevailed. Captain Zittel feels that the carabinieri are of a poor quality and are frightened to enforce their orders. There are 200 in the town of La Spezia. Both he and I feel that if they are substantially reinforced by Major Heford's mobile group they will be able to control the situation. It is the intention of the Patriots officer, Fifth Army, to visit La Spezia again next week. In regard to the miniature battles which are alleged to have taken place in the hills I could find no verification of this apart from the fact that a few shots were fired in front of the local prison apparently with no intention of harming any one but to quote Captain Zittel's words, "Show the population that the Partisans still have firearms in their possession".

Recommendation

1. That some form of transport, possibly captured, be supplied to Major Heford in order to mobilize his carabinieri.
2. If possible a small unit of military police to be stationed in La Spezia in order to bolster the carabinieri's morale.
3. That a strong action be taken as indicated in this report with the political Questura and his agents.

Libert

R. C. LIBERT,
Capt., Gen. List,
Senior Patriot Officer.

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8 MAR Recd 121/16

HEADQUARTERS
A.M.G. FIFTH ARMY
APO 164, U.S. ARMY

seen.

AES:IDP

REFERENCE: 223/5

6 March 1945.

SUBJECT : Monthly Report of Patriot Section
for February.TO : H.Q. Allied Commission.
Attn: Civil Affairs Section - Patriots Branch.Herewith, in duplicate, monthly report for February of
the Patriot Section, A.M.G. Fifth Army.

For the Commanding General:

Arthur E. Sutherland, Jr.
ARTHUR E. SUTHERLAND, JR.,
Lt. Colonel, C.A.C.,
Executive Officer.

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ALLIED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY

PATRIOT SECTION

RCI/mm

SUBJECT : Report on the Activities
of the Patriot Section
for the month of February 1945.

DATE : 5.3.1945

TO : S.C.A.O., AMG., Fifth Army.

1. During the month of February 1945 nothing of particular note occurred in regard to this Section. Influx of Patriots both at Pescia and at Florence Centres was more or less what could be expected and I attach hereto the monthly totals showing how the various numbers were dispersed. I also attach hereto a list showing the stock which was present at the warehouse at the Refugee Centre in via d lla Scala on the 28th of February 1944, which shows the amount of equipment which has been issued to the two Centres.

2. Italian Army Rations have been issued to all Patriots passing through our Centres; the difficulty which we are experiencing at the moment is that whilst we obtained the authority from AFHQ, no authority was given for the issuing of Soap and Disinfectant and Cigarettes with the result that we are at present drawing these commodities from AMG sources. Owing to limitations in transport, I fear that when we start to move, some difficulty may be experienced in obtaining these commodities, unless the AFHQ authority is amended so that we may draw these from Army dumps.

3. On the 28th of February ^{Mr.} Harold MacMillan M.P., President of Allied Commission visited the Patriots' Centre in Florence and on the following day Lt Gen Truscott Officer Commanding Fifth Army inspected the Centre. Both these gentlemen expressed their approval in the manner in which the organisation was functioning.

SUBJECT : Report on the Activities of the Patriot Section for the month of February 1945.

DATE : 5.3.1945

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R. C. LILBERT, List
Captain, Gen. List
Patriots Officer, Fifth Army.

ALLED MILITARY GOVERNMENT

HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY

PATRIOT SECTION

APPENDIX "A"

REPORT ON MOVEMENT OF PATRIOTS DURING
THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY.

IN		OUT				PRESENT		
		Joined Italian Army	Joined Labour Units	Evacuated to Homes	total	In Hospital	In Centre	
FLORENCE	497	114	36	270	420	24	263	
PESCIA	991	39	-	76	115	101	1087	

REPORT ON MOVEMENT OF PATRIOTS DURING
THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY.

IN		OUT				PRESENT		
		Joined Italian Army	Joined Labour Units	Evacuated to Homes	Total	In Hospital	In Centre	
FLORENCE	497	114	36	280	420	24	263	
PESCIA	991	39	-	76	115	101	1087	

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APPENDIX "B"

STOCK SUMMARY, February 1, 5.

ITEM.	IN STOCK 28.2.1945	ISSUED DURING MONTH			RECEIPTS DURING MONTH.
		Florence	Pescia	Misc.	Total.
Boots	384	255	450	64	874
Blouses BD	9	-	-	-	-
Gas Capes	-	-	-	-	-
Greatcoats, civ.	91	-	-	57	167
Pants, cotton	1128	-	-	30	1038
Raincoats	1000	-	1008	-	-
Shirts cotton	981	-	-	-	1000
" GI dyed	171	150	265	277	542
" salvaged	8	-	500	5	655
Shorts, K.D.	89	-	-	1	1
Socks, Civ.	804	-	-	-	-
" GI	58	-	-	30	30
Sweaters, Civ.	588	300	1165	200	1665
" It.	503	-	-	15	15
Suits, Partisan	582	290	700	-	990
Trousers, BD	10	30	153	162	345
" Civ.	1015	-	-	-	835
" GI	510	-	460	100	560
" KD	53	100	500	15	615
		-	-	-	-
BEDDING.					
Beds	215	50	-	-	50
Blankets	310	-	880	-	880
Faillasses	100	-	-	-	-
EQUIPMENT					
Dishes Meat	10	-	-	5	5
Forks, carving	12	-	-	3	3
Forks, Table	260	-	-	100	100
Kettles Camp	20	-	-	-	-
Knives, carving	12	-	-	3	3
Knives Cook's	2	-	-	1	1
Knives, table	320	-	-	100	100
Machines, mincing	2	-	-	-	-
Mess Tins, It	272	-	100	-	100
" Rect Br	720	-	-	-	-
Pans, frying	21	-	-	5	5
Spoons, dessert	320	-	-	100	100

Boots	384	295	450	64	674	-	-	-	-
Blouses BD	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gas Capes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greatcoats, civ.	9I	110	-	57	167	-	-	-	-
Pants, cotton	1128	-	-	30	1038	-	-	-	-
Raincoats	1000	-	1008	-	-	-	-	-	1000
Shirts cotton	98I	-	265	277	542	-	-	-	-
" GI dyed	17I	150	500	5	655	-	-	-	-
" salvaged	8	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
Shorts, K.D.	89	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Socks, Civ.	804	-	-	30	30	-	-	-	-
" GI	58	300	1165	200	1665	-	-	-	-
Sweaters, Civ.	588	-	-	15	15	-	-	-	-
" It.	503	290	700	-	990	-	-	-	-
Suits, Partisan	582	30	153	162	345	-	-	-	835
Trousers, BD	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
" Civ.	1015	-	460	100	560	-	-	-	-
" GI	510	100	500	15	615	-	-	-	-
" KD	53	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

BEDDING.

Beds	215	50	-	-	50	265
Blankets	310	-	-	-	880	-
Paillasses	100	-	-	-	-	-

EQUIPMENT

Dishes Meat	10	-	-	5	-	-
Forks, carving	12	-	-	3	-	-
Forks, Table	260	-	-	100	100	-
Kettles Camp	20	-	-	-	-	-
Knives, carving	12	-	-	3	3	-
Knives Cook's	2	-	-	1	1	-
Knives, table	320	-	-	100	100	-
Machines, mincing	2	-	-	-	-	-
Mess Tins, It	272	-	100	-	100	-
" Rect Br	720	-	-	-	-	-
Pans, frying	21	-	-	5	5	-
Spoons, dessert	320	-	-	100	100	-
Tents, Biv	1000	-	-	-	-	-
Mallets	200	-	-	-	-	-

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